

I travel around the southeast a great deal and have become increasingly aware that while finding a good radio station has always been difficult, finding one that isn't "Clear Channel Communications" is nearly impossible. The number of stations may well have gone up, but the diversity of programming has not, especially when it comes to news. I have to hope that an NPR station is nearby, or I am left with whatever Clear Channel has decided to pull off the wires, which is rarely much and inevitably biased towards sensationalism. The music choices are about as dismal, either Country or Rock, both using nearly identical song sets and repeated ad nauseum. Please do not encourage this mockery of free airwaves any more; even when our area only had four stations there was more diversity of programming, music, and commentary than there is now, with nearly a dozen 'stations' taking their material from one or two sources. Recent news coverage on television has reinforced this, especially when I found it necessary to visit foreign (non-US market) websites to get any differing opinions of American activities. That is a poor example of freedom of expression, and disturbing to someone who grew up expecting to hear free and open discussion of all issues, no matter how controversial. Please keep limits on media ownership of broadcast outlets to encourage differing points of view and keep our media's vital competitive attitude. Thank you for your time.